

cut corners, dumb down, impose numbing uniformity, enshrine group think, standardize mediocrity or gorge themselves on the resources meant to be spent on the real stuff of education—the interaction between small groups of faculty and students wrestling with the profound issues of the day.

The National War College has always embodied something unique. As I look at you leaders of this college during different eras of war and peace, I sense a continuity of intellectual engagement and energy in these historic halls. It is called excellence.

Why is it here? Yes, you have an outstanding faculty, and superior students, an ever adapting curricula and your wonderful location here in Washington.

But the key, from the beginning—the genius of General Eisenhower's vision—is that experienced professionals from various backgrounds and come together, over an extended period of time, to learn from each other, and to tackle problems together in an environment that fosters understanding. This is one institution that has had no agenda other than to make wise and thoughtful leaders. In the current atmosphere of partisan tensions, this College remains a refuge from the bureaucratic skirmishes and wars.

As the first War College Commandant, Admiral Harry T. Hill explained, his intention was to “make the students ponder”, to give the students practical problems upon which to think and arrive at individual conclusions.

This is a safe space for men and women to engage each other in the search for a better understanding of each others' agencies and departments. They can gain a true appreciation of the character and conduct of war, the complexity of strategy, and the utility of the diplomatic, political and economic instruments of state. Your product is strategists. They are still critical to our future.

I can see this in your graduates . . . General Pace, our Chairman; General Martin Dempsey on the ground now in Iraq; David Sedney, our first senior State Department officer in Afghanistan after 9/11 and now deputy chief of mission in China; Buzz Mosley, Chief of Staff of the Air Force . . . generals, ambassadors, foreign military officers, and interagency leaders. Even one of our newest Armed Services Committee staffers, Lorry Fenner, is a former member of your faculty and a National War College graduate. I could go on and on . . .

This is a proud tradition and serves as the foundation for the next 60 years ahead. I hope the War College will continue to lead the way in inter-agency and inter-service strategic education. As we broaden our definition of the national security community to include homeland defense and increased international cooperation, I hope that the War College model and experience can be used to broaden government's approach to our nation's challenges.

George Kennan, typing away in his office right next door to this room, charted a strategy to meet a past threat . . . a policy that endured and was adapted, through Administrations of both parties. You all have been the watchful guardians of this heritage.

I want to challenge you tonight continue to work with us in Congress and at this College to think about how to improve inter-agency planning and operations to defeat our adversaries and to capitalize on opportunities. Lend your wisdom to the significant questions we face today—should we be working on a National Security Act for 2007 or 2009? How can we adapt a Goldwater-Nichols type reform to the interagency process? These are only two of the topics we wrestle with. You can see how significant they are and imagine the sustained, long term effort they will require.

So, we enjoy a celebration tonight, but tomorrow we must start again to renew and reinvigorate this great project of creating national security strategists. Given your history, and the imperative for the future, I am confident this College's faculty and students are up to this challenge.

Thank you for including me in your celebration. I welcome your continued engagement on these issues.

A FAREWELL TO CITIGROUP WEILL BUILT A GIANT A DEAL AT A TIME

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the now retired Citigroup chairman Sanford I. Weill for achieving the status as one of the most powerful financiers this Nation has ever seen. Mr. Weill is credited as being the architect of a global financial powerhouse from his many business deals and mergers, especially the merger of Citigroup and Travelers in 1998.

Sanford I. Weill is the true embodiment of the American dream. A youth growing up in Brooklyn during the 1940s, Weill changed the way business deals were brokered. The retirement of Sanford I. Weill has been called by many as an “end of an era”, a time when Wall Street seemed to be increasingly dominated by hedge funds and private equity firms run by nameless and faceless yet powerful financial brokers. Weill is among the last of the classic deal makers who broke many of the rules and rewrote history on Wall Street as never seen before.

Mr. Weill does not plan to return to Citigroup and has since passed on the corporation to his successor, Charles O. Prince III the current chief executive.

Retirement for Mr. Weill now consists of an array of philanthropic endeavors such as doing work for the National Academy Foundation, a nationwide network of career-themed “schools within schools” that he established, Carnegie Hall, where he has been chairman for the last 15 years and the Weill Cornell Medical College. Weill also wishes to involve himself in health relief efforts for people in Africa, a continent with compelling needs to which Mr. Weill's compassion and success has been drawn and which can only benefit from his commitment and energy.

I am pleased to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an article published in the New York Times on Tuesday April 18, 2006 entitled, “A Farewell to Citigroup”, for its recognition of Mr. Weill for the many years that he has put into Citigroup and also for his commitment to philanthropy thereafter.

A FAREWELL TO CITIGROUP

(By Julie Creswell and Eric Dash)

Entering his sun-filled office in Citigroup's Manhattan headquarters, Sanford I. Weill punched a few buttons on a computer near a window before looking over his shoulder and smiling broadly. When asked if he had just looked at Citigroup's stock price, he shrugged his shoulders as if to suggest he could not help himself.

“It's up 35 cents; it's a good day,” he noted.

For years, Mr. Weill and Citigroup were, for all intents and purposes, synonymous.

During decades of deal making, he built one of the most powerful and influential financial institutions in the world.

Today, at the annual Citigroup shareholder meeting at Carnegie Hall, Mr. Weill, 73, will cross the stage and take his final bow as chairman.

Looking tan and fit thanks to a new diet regimen (exercise, no bread, no butter and, for good measure, no gin), a spirited and joking Mr. Weill insisted that while he intended to keep a close eye on the company and its stock price, he was ready to retire.

“I think it's now time for me to turn the page and go to the next chapter of my life,” Mr. Weill said yesterday. “I've hung around long enough as the chairman, and I think the company will be well served by having the chairman and the C.E.O. being the same person.”

Mr. Weill's successor, Charles O. Prince III, the chief executive, assumes the post of chairman today. Citigroup, to be sure, is not sending Mr. Weill away with nothing more than a gold watch and a big thank-you. A black-tie invitation-only party was held last night at the Temple of Dendur in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

About 350 of New York's political, financial and cultural elite were expected to attend, including James Dimon of J. P. Morgan Chase; Philip J. Purcell, the former chief of Morgan Stanley; the Rev. Jesse Jackson; and the cellist Yo-Yo Ma. Guests nibbled on tiny treats and toasted Mr. Weill's storied career.

The celebration was as much about Mr. Weill's charitable activities—for Carnegie Hall, the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell and a national education initiative—as it is about his leadership of Citigroup.

The party also seemed to suggest the passing of an era. At a time when Wall Street seems to be increasingly dominated by hedge funds and private equity firms run by nameless and faceless yet undoubtedly powerful financiers, Mr. Weill, once a volatile and insecure boy from Brooklyn, is a throwback. He is among the last of the classic deal makers who broke many of the rules and rewrote history on Wall Street.

As for Mr. Weill's retirement nest egg, it is all but layered in gold. After earning nearly \$1 billion from salary, bonuses and options cashed in over the last decade, Mr. Weill will receive a pension worth more than \$1 million a year.

Under a 10-year consulting contract with Citigroup, he will earn a daily rate of \$3,846 for dispensing advice for up to 45 days a year. Citigroup will also cover the costs of a car and driver, health and dental insurance for him and his wife, Joan, and rent for an office in the General Motors Building, as well as administrative support.

Mr. Weill, meanwhile, will continue to fly at no charge on Citigroup jets for the next 10 years. (He voluntarily reduced that benefit, which originally was to allow him free access to the Citigroup fleet for life.)

One thing Mr. Weill insists he is not going to do in retirement is start a private equity fund. Last summer, Mr. Weill landed in a white-hot media glare after he approached the board about starting such a fund. The board decided that such an endeavor would be competitive and told Mr. Weill that, if he left early to pursue it, he would have to forgo some retirement perks. Mr. Weill ultimately decided not to pursue the venture, and he said he had not changed his mind.

“They ended up doing me a big favor. Knowing my personality, whatever I'm going to get involved in, that rush is going to come again that we have to do it the best,” Mr. Weill said. “I wanted to do something different, and this gives me the opportunity to do it.” Despite reports last summer of growing tensions between him and his successor,

Mr. Weill said he believed the company—and his legacy—was in strong hands.

A SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE
VOLUNTEERS OF SPAWAR

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize a group of volunteers serving at SPAWAR Charleston in the First Congressional District of South Carolina.

Volunteering is a powerful force for the solution of human problems, and the creative use of human resources is essential to a healthy, productive and humane society.

Our nation's heritage is based on citizen involvement and citizen participation. Volunteerism is of enormous benefit in building a better community and a better sense of one's own well being.

Many agencies that benefit from volunteers will be participating in programs to show appreciation and recognition to the many volunteers among our citizenry who possess many skills and talents which they generously and enthusiastically apply to a variety of community tasks; and to encourage others to participate in programs as volunteers.

I encourage all SPAWAR Charleston employees to get involved in serving others. I charge those interested citizens to observe this day by seeking some area in the community in which they can devote a few hours each week and give aid to people or programs in need. I wish you all the best!

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANELA FREEMAN

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the departure of a key member of my staff, Anela Freeman. Anela is a Senior Field Representative/Grants Coordinator in my El Monte office who is leaving my staff this Friday to pursue graduate education.

Anela is an only child and was raised by a single mother. She became one of the first members of her family to earn a college degree when she graduated from the University of Southern California in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations.

Anela was hired as a Staff Assistant in my El Monte office on April 20, 2003. Anela accepted her role with great responsibility and maturity. She quickly learned the importance of providing high quality constituent services and her efforts undoubtedly helped to improve the quality of life of residents in my district.

Anela is a dedicated and capable individual. She is also a team player who has effectively established collaborative partnerships between my office and local community-based organizations. Through her efforts, I have been able to provide grant workshops, grant-writing seminars, and financial literacy forums for my constituents.

Although my staff and I will miss Anela, I wish her much success and know that she will

flourish in her career goals and all aspects of her life.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A. DEMATTIA

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Robert A. DeMattia upon his nomination to the Plymouth Community Hall of Fame.

DeMattia's tireless efforts on behalf of the people of Plymouth have brought him this well deserved recognition. Demonstrating his entrepreneurial acumen, DeMattia founded the DeMattia Group in 1978. The DeMattia Group has been involved in pioneering commercial and industrial business park development. By his design, development, and construction, DeMattia has been involved in creating hundreds of facilities in Plymouth Township. Mr. DeMattia's vision and leadership have helped lead Plymouth into a prosperous future.

Of equal import and impact are Mr. DeMattia's philanthropic efforts. Whether assisting with our local parks or working on the behalf of children through the Plymouth Kiwanis Club, DeMattia has donated his time and efforts to enrich the lives of others. Let us, then, commend Mr. DeMattia for his contributions to our community and his induction into the Plymouth Community Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO ADOLFO E.
GUTIERREZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Adolfo E. Gutierrez for his induction as a laureate in the 2006 Laredo Business Hall of Fame, and for his incredible dedication to the City of Laredo, Texas.

Adolfo E. Gutierrez was born and raised in Laredo, Texas. He graduated from J.W. Nixon High School in 1974 and graduated from Texas A&M University in 1977. Shortly after graduation, he started his first four businesses, Melanie's Auto Sales, Clark Car Clinic, Fancy G Iron Works, and later, 3-G Electrical Supply which he opened using the money from his first three businesses, at age 21 in Laredo.

In 1979, Mr. Gutierrez married his high school sweetheart, Mary Alice York, and the couple have three children, Mary Kathryn, Adolfo Jr., and Amanda Leigh. At just thirty-nine years of age, Mr. Gutierrez joined Falcon National Bank as President and CEO.

Under his leadership, Falcon Bank grew from 20 employees and \$52 million in assets to 245 employees and over \$500 million in assets, and includes offices in San Antonio, Eagle Pass, Buda, McAllen, Del Rio, and offices in Guadalajara and Monterrey in Mexico.

Mr. Gutierrez has admirably served the community of Laredo, Texas, through his membership and work in several civic, social, educational, and governmental organizations such as the Laredo Under Seven Flags Rotary

Club, the Salvation Army, the March of Dimes, and the United Way. For his dedication and hard work in making the Laredo business community stronger and better, he will be honored by the Junior Achievement League in his induction into the 2006 Business Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the bravery and dedication of Adolfo E. Gutierrez, and I thank you for this time.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN HIGHTOWER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today with a heavy heart, as I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of a remarkable man and a dear friend, Mr. John Hightower. Mr. Hightower passed away at the age of 80 on Tuesday, April 25, after a long illness. I am deeply saddened by this loss, for John and his family have been inspirations to many throughout the City of Flint, as well as the county, state and nation.

It is difficult to imagine what the landscape of my hometown of Flint, Michigan, would be like, had John Hightower not moved here from St. Louis in 1952. An Army veteran, John started working at the Buick Foundry, where he also served as committeeman at UAW Locals 599 and 659. His relationship with Buick was shortlived, as he lost his job after confronting a supervisor who had made a racial slur. For John, this became a new opportunity rather than a setback; following the incident, he opened Hightower Electronics and Construction Company. This also served as the catalyst to his becoming one of the area's foremost civil rights proponents. He joined others across the country in the March on Washington and the march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. He brought the lessons he learned from those experiences home and fought for racial equity in the local job market, against unfair housing practices, and increased funding for the Flint Public Library.

Mr. Speaker, the impact John Hightower made in the City of Flint is one that will be felt by its residents for generations to come. His loss will leave a great void, but his legacy will endure forever. I personally am grateful to have had the opportunity to call John my constituent, my colleague, and my friend. I am a better Congressman, a better citizen, and a better human being for having known him. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in paying tribute to his legacy.

THE GREAT REVULSION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a piece by New York Times columnist Paul Krugman because I believe it is well worth our reading and consideration because of its